

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 8 and 9, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1-7 and 10 as follows:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A process for the ~~expression~~ production of a homologous ~~and or~~ heterologous ~~proteins~~ protein, by comprising:

culturing a Zygosaccharomyces bailii ~~strains~~ strain transformed with an expression ~~vectors~~ vector having comprising a gene coding for ~~such as~~ the protein, and recovering the protein.

Claim 2. (Currently amended) ~~Expression vector for Z. bailii strains containing~~ The process of claim 1, wherein the expression vector comprises an ~~ARS sequences~~ sequence from S. cerevisiae, ~~a homologous CEN (centromeric) sequences or derived~~ sequence from Z. bailii or S. cerevisiae, ~~a~~ the gene coding for ~~a~~ the protein, a promoter controlling the expression of the gene, and a marker.

Claim 3. (Currently amended) ~~A vector according to~~ The process of claim 2, in which wherein the ARS sequence is the ARS1 sequence.

Claim 4. (Currently amended) ~~A vector according to~~ The process of claim 2 or 3, where wherein the centromeric sequence is CEN4 from S. cerevisiae.

Claim 5. (Currently amended) ~~A vector according to anyone of the claims~~ The process of claim 1 2,3,4 wherein the expression vector derived from contains nucleotide sequences identical to one or more nucleotide sequences in the plasmid pSB2 of Z. bailii.

Claim 6. (Currently amended) ~~A vector according to claims~~ The process of claim 2, 3, 4, 5 where wherein the marker is the gene for resistance to geneticin.

Claim 7. (Currently amended) ~~A vector according to claims 2-6~~ The process of claim 2, where wherein the promoter is ADH1 and/or GAL₁₋₁₀/CYC1 from S. cerevisiae.

Claim 10. (Currently amended) A method of transformation of Z. bailii strains, ~~including~~
comprising:

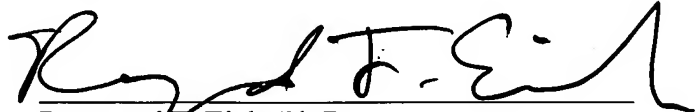
~~electroporation~~ electroporating in the presence of monovalent ions, reducing agents,
and/or nucleic acids.

Should any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason, the Director is authorized to deduct said fees from Williams, Morgan & Amerson, P.C. Deposit Account No. 50-0786/2027.633082RFE.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAMS, MORGAN & AMERSON, P.C.
CUSTOMER NO. 23720

January 15, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Raymund F. Eich', written over a horizontal line.

Raymund F. Eich, Ph.D.

Reg. No. 42,508

10333 Richmond, Suite 1100

Houston, Texas 77042

(713) 934-4065

(713) 934-7011 (fax)

AGENT FOR APPLICANTS